

Daily Prayer Notes

Lutheran Brethren International Mission

June 2019

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1st TAIWAN/CHAD *Isaiah 30*

Today is graduation day at China Lutheran Seminary. Pray that the new graduates will move forward in confidence and wisdom. Pray for the CLS teachers and staff to be encouraged in their ministries. Also, happy 7th birthday to **Boeden**.

2nd TAIWAN *Isaiah 31*

Today, three young men (**Simon, Herry, and Harry**) from **Ethan and Sandy Christofferson's** English Bible Study class receive baptism! Pray that their families will attend and that they will understand the gospel clearly as Ethan preaches. Pray for these high school seniors will seek and know God's will for their future.

3rd CHAD *Isaiah 32*

Ramadan ends tomorrow, and the 5th is the start of the three-day Id al Fitr, the breaking of the fast. Unreached people will offer special prayers and share food in celebration. Pray for opportunities to share the gospel as our missionaries engage with individuals during this time.

4th E. ASIA *Isaiah 33*

Joel and Liz's son, **Tim**, graduates tomorrow and then transitions to college in the US. Pray for him as he packs up and says good-bye to life as he has known it since he was a baby.

5th JAPAN *Isaiah 34*

Pray for singer and songwriter **Junko Nishiguchi Cheng**, who is with **Dean and Linda Bengtson** at Ishinomaki House of Hope. She will share her story with neighbors today and give a concert tomorrow evening.

6th CHAD *Isaiah 35*

June begins the rainy season and the time for planting. Pray for a good growing season in this land of extreme poverty where life hangs in the balance.

7th N. AMERICA *Isaiah 36*

Mike and Delores Kittelson are in the US during June for vacation with family. Pray for the members of Victory Hakka fellowship, that the guest speakers will encourage them while Mike and Delores are away.

8th SRI LANKA *Isaiah 37*

The devastating Easter bombing in Sri Lanka killed at least 300 people and injured more than 500. Pray for strength and perseverance for families suffering loss, shock and trauma. Pray for healing for their hearts, bodies and souls. Pray for pastors who minister to them.

9th CHAD *Isaiah 38-39*

Kay asks for prayer for God's continued grace for language learning, as she now moves to the

next level of instruction. Praise God for the peace he has given her to navigate traffic for attending classes and doing her daily tasks.

10th N. AMERICA *Isaiah 40*

Pray for **Matt** and **Christina Smith** and their family as they continue to make preparations for future ministry in Chad.

11th TAIWAN *Isaiah 41*

Pray for **Ben** and **Sara Hosch**, as they continue to adjust to a new climate, language, friends, and home. Pray for wisdom as they create schedules that fulfill both language learning and family needs.

12th CHAD *Isaiah 42*

Paul and **Teresa** have been working with another student family since January. **Mahamat** and **Emily** and their five children are preparing for ministry partnership with LBIM to an unreached people group. Pray that they adjust well to the desert climate and culture, as well as learning to live in community.

13th N. AMERICA *Isaiah 43*

Roger and **Sue Olson**, Japanese Ministries (Rock of Ages, Seattle) report that English Conversation "Rock Talk-Time" is in full swing with a new group of Japanese students. Pray that God will use this ministry to help them and bring them to faith. Pray for the volunteer staff to be encouraged in serving.

14th TAIWAN *Isaiah 44*

Tomorrow, Christians gather in Taipei for a "Stand for Life" rally to encourage lawmakers and citizens to reject abortion and to learn about abortion alternatives.

Pray for a positive response to this rally. Tomorrow is also graduation day at the Hakka Mission Seminary. Pray that the graduates will effectively serve the gospel.

15th CHAD *Isaiah 45*

Dave asks for prayer during the rainy season, when diseases seem to come more often. Pray for good health for **Dave** and **Sonja** and their children, for continued language acquisition and increased ability to share Christ. Happy 9th birthday to **Eva**.

16th JAPAN *Isaiah 46*

Pray for the Japan Pastors and Parish Workers study meeting. Along with theological study, important discussions regarding future ministry will take place. Pray that God will guide and give fresh ideas for the future of Japan LBC.

17th CHAD *Isaiah 47*

Pray for **Nathanael** and **Carrie** and their children as they serve. Pray for favor and for many opportunities to share God's Word in this village. Pray for safety and good health for them all.

18th TAIWAN *Isaiah 48*

Pray for China LBC **President Wu** as he guides pastors through a 2½-year study of the synod's position on women's ordination. Preparations are being made for the first of five discussions in early September. Happy birthday to **Sandy Christofferson**.

19th E. ASIA *Isaiah 49*

Liz had the opportunity to share the Easter story with some children and their moms, and they showed interest in hearing more from the Bible. She also has an ongoing

study with one mom and her son. Pray for their hearts to be receptive.

20th CHAD *Isaiah 50*

Dan Venberg reports that a village in eastern Chad has seen 50 converts to Christ since November. Pray for "Sally", a recent convert who travels to encourage others new in the faith, as she is being persecuted. She has told her persecutors, "I am prepared to die."

21st N. AMERICA *Isaiah 51*

Nearly every Sunday, at least one new person attends worship and hears the gospel for the first time at Japanese Ministries (Rock of Ages LB church, Seattle). Pray for their hearts to be receptive, and that **Roger** and **Sue Olson** can effectively minister to their needs.

22nd TAIWAN *Isaiah 52*

Pray for **Ju's** brother; he has physical ailments that make his life difficult. He has recently been willing to receive encouragement from church members. May the message of God's love and salvation in Christ enter his heart.

23rd CHAD *Isaiah 53*

Jeremy asks prayer for missionary teammates as there are many transitions and much travel in June. Pray for **Jeremy** and **Sallee** as they serve in the Welcome Center and provide for rest and recuperation for missionaries who come through and stay there. Happy birthday to **Sallee**.

24th N. AMERICA *Isaiah 54*

Pray for **Danny** and **Mandy** and their sons, now living in MN. Pray for God's miraculous healing for baby **Boaz** as they wait and pray regarding their future as

missionaries in Chad. Happy 11th birthday to **Zeke**.

25th JAPAN *Isaiah 55*

Haruya is a new seminary student, and his wife **Mafumi** is undergoing treatments for cancer. Pray that her treatments will be effective, and that God will grant her full healing.

26th CHAD *Isaiah 56*

Praise God for major progress on construction of **Kay's** house. Pray for the right person(s) to complete the wiring and solar, along with continued safety for the workers.

27th CHAD *Isaiah 57*

Jeremy and **Sallee** ask prayer for a transition home for some friends of another mission who are leaving the field under difficult circumstances.

28th E. ASIA *Isaiah 58*

Joel finishes his semester of teaching at the end of June. Pray for favor with those who decide what he will teach in the fall.

29th N. AMERICA *Isaiah 59*

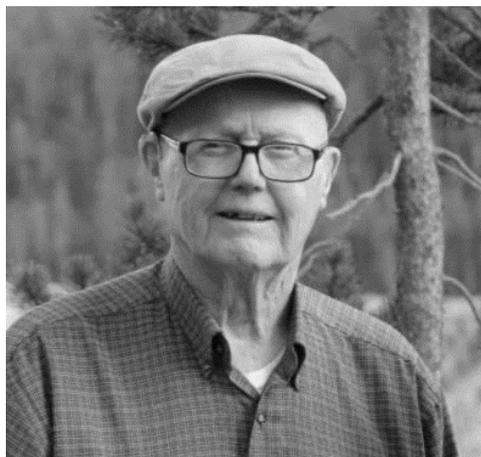
Roger and **Sue Olson** write that bilingual Bible Study opportunities for Japanese students are popping up around Seattle and in their home. Pray for continued cooperation, oneness of Spirit and mission and much fruit.

30th CHAD *Isaiah 60*

Paul asks prayer for a sense of direction in their home assignment schedule, that they might truly edify the church while home and be edified. Pray also for someone to care for their home in Chad during their absence.

FATHER – SON MISSIONARIES

My dad, Arve Christofferson, breathed his last on April 4th while I was still far away in Taiwan, the island he himself called home as a LB missionary for more than ten of his ninety-one years. It wasn't long after his death that I discovered that he had tasked me (complete with a sermon text, title, and detailed notes) with preaching at his funeral. As I scrambled to prepare, I read through a memoir he had put together, learning an amazing dimension of my dad's story—the way God had shaped him early in life. I guess I always took his ministry heart for granted, never wondering how the desire to serve God and reach the lost whatever the cost became so compelling and all-encompassing for him.



Baptized as a baby, my dad was especially thankful for the influence of his Christian parents. Every morning as a child, he found his spot on the floor in their Montana farmhouse and listened as his father read the Bible and prayed. My dad often felt deeply convicted and, in retrospect, wished that earlier on, someone had coached him to “lay my sins on Jesus” and be set free. He credited hearing the Word regularly in his early years with making his relationship with God so predominant in his thinking. He treasured everything about attending Immanuel, the little country church on the prairie close to their home, and talked about sermons given by pastors like C. J. Brun as “sacred times.” He struggled spiritually for a time in high school, and when he was seventeen, at the encouragement of my grandparents, he went to Bible School in Fergus Falls, Minnesota. It was there that God met him once again in a sermon preached by Pastor T. B. Tergesen. His heart “flooded with happiness” as, enabled by God's grace, he knelt by his bed on the fourth floor of what is now Hillcrest Academy, committing his life to Christ. My dad looked back on that day in 1944 as “the beginning of an entirely new, satisfying and challenging life.”

The heart that God created in my dad enabled him to have an impact on so many. He prayed fervently, served as a pastor in two LB churches, as a missionary in Taiwan, and when he wasn't able to return to Taiwan in 1971, as a tentmaker involved in planting two more LB churches. It was during that last church-planting phase that I was privileged to walk alongside him more closely. God used him to birth and nurture my own ministry heart. His encouragement to me to “go try seminary for a year” was a key factor in my becoming the pastor and missionary that I am today.

I am grateful that the One who gave new life to the man I call “Dad” is still raising up voices to speak for him in our world today. Blessed be the memory of Arve Christofferson!

Ethan Christofferson